

RCE/1754

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

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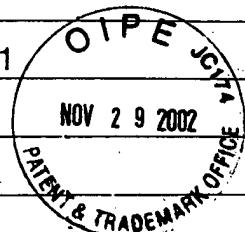
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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/840,878
Filing Date April 25, 2001
First Named Inventor IMAI et al
Group Art Unit 1754
Examiner Name Johnson
Attorney Docket Number 1417-348



This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted
 i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on October 3, 2002
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed
 i. Amendment/Reply 12/02/2002 JADD01 00000056 09840878
 ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s) 01 FC:1801 740.00 OP
 iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 35 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)

b. Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 14-1140
 i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$740.00 enclosed
 c. Payment by credit card (For PTO-2038 enclosed)

TC 1700
DEC 03 2002

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print Type)	Arthur R. Crawford	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	25,327
Signature		Date	November 29, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print Type)		Date
Signature		

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.